



The new L.G. Smith Boulevard “Super Roundabout” will open ahead of schedule

Despite heavy weather and the delivery delays of materials, officials from the Department of Public Works (DOA) were proud to announce on Wednesday morning that the super-rotunda in the Eagle area of the L.G. Smith Boulevard will be completed and open for use on Monday, December 4, eleven days ahead of schedule.

Josy Figueroa, Director of the DOA was joined by Josy Kock, project manager of the roundabout in making the announcement, and also informing the public about the use of the new rotunda. This traffic juncture is the same in size and use as the one located on the Sasaki Highway in front of Eagle Bowling Palace. It is two-lane traffic circle, allowing lanes for feeding into the rotunda and departing, as well as a through lane that will facilitate the flow of traffic between the hotels and Oranjestad.

It is expected to give great relief to the traffic of this area, which is known to be a bottleneck during certain hours of the day. The commercialization of the Eagle area has also created the need for this rotunda. Staff of the DOA also informed THE NEWS that the two access roads that were created through the residential area of Eagle to allow through traffic during construction will be shut down the same day that the rotunda will be put into use.

Additionally present at the press conference to announce the completion of the traffic circle were Marlon Croes and Swinda Dijkoff, the engineers that designed it. Diagrams were provided to explain the procedures for using the traffic circle, and DOA employees gave a practical example for the TV cameras.

A new addition to this circle, not found on others is a sort “speed bump” lane divider, which will prevent lane changing within the rotunda. This mean that if drivers change their mind on their direction, they will have to circle the entire rotunda to exit, is they were not in the outside lane. Two lanes do allow individuals in the outside lane to drive through, but those in the inside lane cannot switch to an exit lane without traversing the entire rotunda. This should also facilitate the flow of traffic and help prevent accidents.

Separate lanes that are being constructed further down the highway will provide access to the shopping areas on either side of the rotunda. Entering the commercial area via the rotunda will not give immediate access to the parallel service road as it did before. It will provide access to the shops on the Belgiestraat, but the supermarkets cannot be accessed via the rotunda directly. These roads are also expected to be completed and opened on December 4.